

ing salary increases of deputy ministers. It seems to me that on October 9 the cabinet had already reached a decision to impose wage and price controls on Canadians. At the same time they were giving final and formal approval to the huge increases deputy ministers were about to receive. Some of these increases in the top range are as high as \$6,500.

The Prime Minister argued today that the average increase is only 9.3 per cent. But I ask: on what incomes, to begin with? They are incomes ranging from \$27,000 to \$60,000. As I said, some civil servants have been granted increases of \$6,000 or \$6,500. This is an increase which is well in excess of the \$2,400 limitation imposed on all other Canadians. I do not think this is right. I do not think it is morally right or fair.

I charge that the Prime Minister today was evading answering the question I put to him. I have a source very close to the Prime Minister that tipped me off this morning saying in essence that when the cabinet met for one of the last times before the Prime Minister addressed the nation on October 13, it approved the guidelines he announced, and then turned to some household or routine business, which was the formal ratification of the increases for the deputy ministers. I put that question to the Prime Minister and he said no, it did not occur at the last cabinet meeting. But I suspect, from what I have picked up since, that those increases were, in fact, formally ratified by a cabinet committee, by Treasury Board, and perhaps it took place as the cabinet agreed to apply controls to all other Canadians.

I then asked the Prime Minister whether he would table those Orders in Council, and he replied that the House would eventually see them. I found out later from a reliable source that the authorization had probably taken the form of Treasury Board minutes and that the President of the Treasury Board (Mr. Chrétien) is not going to make public either the date or the contents of those minutes. I ask why he doesn't do that and I suspect, from what we have been hearing, and from what someone in the Prime Minister's Office said just today, that they were all ratified in the last two weeks. I can understand the Prime Minister saying, "Well, the authorization was given in July, we farmed it out to a cabinet committee, we didn't really expect controls would be coming into effect." But the Prime Minister left himself open on that point.

He said in the House today that back in July "we were in a sense anticipating the guidelines" and as a result they kept the average increase down to 9.3 per cent. For God's sake, Mr. Speaker, if they were anticipating the guidelines at that time, why in the devil did some of the increases go over \$6,000? Why did they not anticipate the ceiling of \$2,400 at that time?

So they farmed it out to a committee, and the committee's job is to slot various civil servants into various salary ranges; there was a summer recess so all the work was done in September and was completed two weeks ago on October 9. By that time the cabinet knew the guidelines. It had ratified the guidelines affecting other Canadians and it could very well have instructed that deputy ministers should obey the rules set for everyone else. Yet here is a government which has imposed guidelines on janitors, clerks, waitresses and lower echelon workers and which at the same time is having Treasury Board minutes signed

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putting into effect some of the salary increases to be enjoyed by deputy ministers.

In the House today the Prime Minister admitted that the slotting was not finished until October 9, two weeks ago. Obviously the Treasury Board minutes were not signed making it formal. We have sources in the PMO which have said this is the case. I do not want any evasive answers from the parliamentary secretary tonight. I want him to respond to my questions. Will they make public those Treasury Board minutes—

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Nystrom:** If they do that there will be more co-operation from the public—

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order.

**Mr. Nystrom:** —and the control program that the government is imposing—

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Order, please. The time allotted to the hon. member has expired.

**Mr. Lloyd Francis (Parliamentary Secretary to President of the Treasury Board):** Mr. Speaker, the hon. member in raising this point has very carefully chronicled the sequence of events. The advisory committee on executive compensation looked at the performance of the people concerned in the period between April, 1974, and April, 1975. Recommendations were made to the cabinet early this year. These recommendations were approved on July 24 by the cabinet. The process of implementing the decision which was approved at that time by the cabinet is, as was indicated by the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau), a somewhat cumbersome and time consuming procedure. It involves a review of individual performance, slotting of individuals within the various ranges indicated, and this procedure was completed prior to the adoption of the guidelines by the cabinet.

**Mr. Nystrom:** The P.M. said two weeks. Check his words.

**Mr. Francis:** The government's policy in the circumstances is to follow the usual procedures regarding tabling of documents, procedures that have prevailed in every other instance, as indicated by the Prime Minister. I can only repeat that this is the sequence of events and that the documents that were produced by cabinet were prior to the adoption of the guidelines and they implemented a decision of July 24.

### EXTERNAL AFFAIRS—SALE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR TO SOUTH KOREA—REQUEST FOR DEBATE PRIOR TO SIGNING OF AGREEMENT

**Mr. Douglas Roche (Edmonton-Strathcona):** Mr. Speaker, last December the Government of Canada authorized Atomic Energy of Canada Limited to negotiate the sale of a CANDU reactor to South Korea. We were told that safeguard arrangements would ensure that Canadian supplied nuclear material would not be used to produce nuclear explosive devices. But we were not told what these safeguards were. We will only learn these, perhaps,